time anj efforts required foe collection of the Mime will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

Opening of electronic exchanges in National Capital region

3300. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to open new electronic telephone exchanges in big cities and towns of the National Capital Region to develop telecommunication facilities and to meet the growing needs of the region; and

(b) if so what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER GF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) YES Sir.

(b) Details are given in the statement.

Statement

S.No.	Name of Town	Type of Electronic exeh-nge	No. of Electronic exchange lines proposed during the 7th Five Year Plan
			12100
2	Bahadurgarh	. RUL(E-IOB)	2000
3	Gurgaon	. E-IOB(M)	6000*
4	Dharuhera .	. NEAX	400
5	Palwal	. NEAX	900
			4000 *v.*
			400
8	Ghaziabad	. E-10B	4000
		RLU(E-IOB)	2000
9	Noida	. E-10BG€)	4000
10	Khurja	. NEQX	'1000

* A 3000 lines PRX electronic exchange was commissioned replacing 1800 lines old strowger exchange at Gurgaon during J9S5-86. It was further expanded to 4000 lines during 86-87. This exchange is proposed to be replaced by a new digital 6000 lines E-10B exchange by the end of the 7th Plan.

(« A 3000 line:; PRX electronic exchange was commissioned replacing 2000 lines old strowger exchange at *Alwar* during 1985-86. This exchange is proposed to be expanded further by another 1000 lines by the end of 7th Plan.

Telephone exchange in Minto Road area of New Delhi

3301. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI; Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

. (a) whether it is a fact that Government have acquired land for setting up a new telephone exchange in Minto Road
area of New Delhi; and

(b) if so. what are the details of progress so far made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The architectural drawing for the proposed telephone exchange tuildvi^ have been submitted to the local authorities for approval

This exchange is likely to be commissioned during the later half of the 8th Five Year Plan subject to availability of resources.

Utilisation of Telecommunications facility in Tamil Nadu

3302. SHRI K. V., THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state: |

(a) whether it is a fact that there is under utilisation of telecommunication facility in Tamil Nadu;

(b) what is the annual total revenue earning from the telecommunication 'sys tem in Tamil Nadu in 1986 and 1987 separately;

(c) whether any study has been conducted on the potential revenue increase if the STD rates are reduced; and

(d) what steps have been taken to implement reduction of STD rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GO MANGO):
No, Sir.

0> The total annual revenue earning from Telecommunication system in Tamil Nadu is given as under:—

(i) During 86-87 . Rs. 1,74,63,55,786.43

(ii) Durfng 87-88 Rs. 2,32,20,83,731-13

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The work of technical modification required in the telephone exchanges for introduction of the plan to reduce the STD tariff between 10 P.M. to 6 A.M. for national STD calls to about 33 per cent of the normal period is i" progress.

. Improvement in the telegraphic system

3303. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased of state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the public dissatisfaction with the telegra phic system;

(h) whether it is possible to refund the amount for all telegrams not delivered within 24 hours; and

(c) what measures Govermnent are tat., ing to improve the telegraphic system to achieve at lei.st their 95 per cent timely i delivery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE I MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Although some complaints have been re-ceived from the members of public against dslay in delivery of telegrams and poor service in remote rural areas^ there has been 'significant improvement in the tele-h service in the country.

(b) lt is possible to refund the tele-graph charges for telegrams not delivered within 24 hours if the telegram has not served its purpose.

(c) The Department has initiated the following measures to improve the tele-graph system:

1. Providing standby power supply units in Telegraph Officers in a phased manner to combat load shedding;

2. Using isulated wire in fault prone jungl$_e$ of plantation areas to reduce fault incidence; on telegraph circuits .
working on open wire lines;

3. Installation of store and forward message switching systems fo avoid manua transiting and to reduce consequent delays and congestion of traffic;

4. Replacement of electromechani cal teleprinters and morse key system with electronic teleprinters and electro nic key boards.